

To: The Rev. George R. Betts

FK

redr.
Department of Work in Alaska

Conditions of Service for Ordained Native Residents of Alaska

ALASKA
PERM FILE
The general Personnel and Policy rules of the Board apply to service in Alaska. The following will supplement and emphasize the general rules:

Service Goal: It is the purpose of the Board of National Missions:

1. To provide an adequate support for a modest but comfortable standard of living for its missionaries.
2. To encourage local groups to assume as much of their own support as possible, applying to the Board only for a grant sufficient to supplement their own efforts to assure an aggressive program and to provide a basic salary and manse for the mission workers.

Salary: The general salary policies of the Board, including manse furnished with basic articles of furniture, participation in the Pension Plan, and one month's vacation, will apply for full-time service for all fully-prepared workers in Alaska. This basic standard will be supplemented by an added differential of \$600. for married and \$300. for single workers in southeastern Alaska, and \$900. for married and \$450. for single workers in the Interior and Arctic Coast of Alaska.

Appointments and Length of Service: Appointments of ordained native residents for service in Alaska in aided churches are made by agreement of the Board, the Presbytery (or its Chairman of National Missions for the Presbytery), the church and the missionary. The one so appointed is recognized as a missionary-pastor which means he is a missionary of the Board and stated supply of the church for the Presbytery. Such appointments are made without a specified length of time. The Board and the missionary, with the approval of the Presbytery, reserve the right to terminate the appointment at any time upon one to six months written notice.

Finances and Reports: The salary of the missionary will be paid by the church served and/or the Board of National Missions. The local church is expected to conduct an EveryMember Canvass and use weekly offering envelopes in order to pay as much of the salary as the economic capacities of the people permit and the Board will supplement this amount to bring the salary up to the established level. The local church will be expected to share with the Board in the travel expense of securing a missionary pastor.

Monthly Report: The missionary shall complete a monthly report in quadruplicate on forms provided covering the activities of the church and missionary for the preceding month, and requesting the portion of salary from the Board for the current month. The report shall include a statement of services and meetings held with the attendance at each, receipts and expenditures, and a narrative of the activities, problems and progress during the month. This shall be completed during the first week and mailed before the tenth of each month. The original shall be sent airmail to the Department of Work in Alaska, the first copy to the Field Representative in Alaska, the second copy to the Chairman of National Missions in the Presbytery, and the third copy shall be retained

Conditions of Service for Ordained Native Residents of Alaska

Monthly Report (cont'd):

by the missionary to assist in compiling the annual report. Regular payments of salary depends upon the regular receipt of monthly reports and vouchers in full. If reports and vouchers are incomplete or delayed more than one month, salary checks will not be forwarded by the Treasury Department.

Vacations: Each full-time employee of the Board is entitled to a month's vacation after eleven months of service. Vacations shall be taken when they will least interfere with the work on the field, and as far as possible provision shall be made for the continuation of essential services. Vacations are for rest and the refreshment of body and spirit. Therefore, continuous employment during this period is discouraged. Remuneration for occasional employment during the vacation period is considered the property of the missionary.

Full-time Employment: It is a rule of the Board that full-time employees shall give full time to their missionary and church activities in their assigned communities and shall not during the same time engage in any other remunerative employment. Any exception to this rule must be by special arrangement and special permission of the Board. If special or emergency circumstances require a missionary to be away from his field more than a day in any week or his allotted vacation period, he shall describe in his narrative the circumstances, length of time away, and provision for the services during his absence.

Field Receipts: All monies received by missionaries for other services rendered while under full time Board employment shall be forwarded to the office of the Board as Field Receipts except that Christmas gifts, wedding, funeral, or baptismal fees (the latter two of which should be discouraged) are considered personal gifts.

Resignations and Transfers: Whenever an ordained native pastor retires or leaves the service of the Board, or the Board feels he ought to leave, an advance notice of one to six months shall be given. When in the judgement of the Presbytery, the Board, the church concerned, and the missionary a change of field would be advisable, the church to which the missionary goes and the Board will be responsible for the moving expense in proportion to the division of salary from the church and the Board.

ink /s/ J. Earl Jackman

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK
2/1953

*53 ac
Betts dr
(Copy to Hoonah Clerk)*

January 23, 1956

VIA AIR MAIL

The Rev. George Betts
Hoonah,
Alaska

Dear George:

Some progress is being made to a better understanding of the status of the deed to the house in which you live. Apparently we cannot make application for quick claim deed until after the village has been thoroughly surveyed and lines have been drawn on a plat. Meanwhile, there seems to be a question involved concerning the name which would be used for the issuance of the deed. You will remember that Sam Johnson lived in the manse at the time of the fire. Because we had a native worker there and the worker had a native worker after the rebuilding of the village, the Board of National Missions was permitted to buy one of the houses. The Board paid the price of \$3,000 cash for it. At the time there was a question whether the deed could be issued directly to the Board or whether it would have to be issued to you and then you transfer it to the Board. Willis Booth was the legal representative of the Board in Juneau at the time so that his name has come into the picture too. Since it may be some time before the village will be surveyed and a deed can be issued it might be wise for us to consider having Dr. Armstrong look up all of the information on this and make the proper arrangements with an attorney in Juneau to have legal papers drawn up covering what is necessary to be sure that the property is properly transferred to the Board of National Missions. We do not want it involved in the estate of Willis Booth or in your name entirely. We know that you are not too far from the age of retirement so that this should be cleared before you would retire from the service of the Board.

We are not going to be able to get approval on all of our requests for repair funds for the church and manse until the April meeting of the Board. However, there is money in the Building Fund of the Church for the things which you propose to do. We would urge you to get these things done before summer and be ready to send funds for them as soon as you say the word.

Next September you will have reached the age of 65 and can retire with full benefit from the Board of Pensions on the basis of your salary and years of service and receive the benefits from Social Security. Last summer we talked about this and then decided that you should wait until the proper age for it.

The Rev. George Betts
January 23, 1956

Page 2

We should have your thinking on this soon because if you are to take retirement and return to Angoon we ought to be thinking now about someone to take the work in Hoonah.

Best regards to you and Katie. We think a great deal about both of you and pray God's richest blessings upon you.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ:ks

cc: The Rev. R. R. Armstrong

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Betts

October 10, 1956

VIA AIRMAIL
The Rev. Brian H. Cleworth
Box 2539
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Brian:

The case of the discovery of malignant cancer in Mrs. Betts brings to mind some basic information which you ought to have in personnel practice with our people in Alaska. Our Board has a small fund, called the Morgan Fund for the one who gave us the money, from which we get annual interest which can be used only for emergency medical expenses for missionaries on the field. The income is never enough to fulfill our needs so that it cannot be used for regular medical expenses but only for emergencies. Up until two years ago each administrator had the privilege of calling upon that fund to the extent of one-half of the emergency bill. More recently we have discovered that the Board of Pensions has an emergency fund upon which our personnel can call for the other half of the bill. Where the entire salary is taken by the Board of National Missions we have this source of help for one-half to the full amount of the bill. Where a part of the salary is taken by the local church it will be necessary to call upon the Presbytery Welfare Fund. In such cases the Board of Pensions has been insisting upon the division of the bill into thirds, one-third from Pensions, one-third from the Board of National Missions and one-third from the Presbytery. Each case will have to be considered upon its merits. This arrangement does give us some source of help for medical bills which cannot be carried out of the small salaries in Alaska.

Sincerely yours,

JEW:dj

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

Hi
George Betts

October 11, 1956

VIA AIRMAIL
The Rev. William H. Gavin
Box 538
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Bill:

Thanks for your word about George Betts. We deeply regret the information it has been discovered that Katie has cancer in its final stages. Sometime ago she had a slight operation on her lip and they thought they had it arrested but evidently it has broken out in some other place. Katie is one of the choice Christians among the native people. We have a great affection for her and her Christian witness over the years. We trust that her strong faith will be able to sustain her through whatever will have to come in the future.

George had been asking to retire because Katie wanted to go back to Angoon and take care of her mother who is passed 96 years. George will be old enough to retire at the end of December, and have full participation in Social Security benefits so that we had talked definitely now about his retirement at that time. In July, he said that December, would be a bad time to move so he was thinking of asking to serve over until spring. In the summer of '55 his retirement had been arranged and we had a man appointed for his field. Then the local people sent in a petition asking that he be retained for another year until the proper age and arrangements under Social Security. We acceded to this request and located the other man in some other place temporarily.

In connection with George's retirement there is another thing which needs to be done. The National Missions Committee and we had worked out the possibility of locating a fully trained white man at Hoonah for a greater program ministry there and we would ask him to fly once or twice a month from Hoonah to Pelican to provide a ministry there. There are a number of people in that community who are sort of fed up with what they are getting from Mr. and Mrs. Personeous, and have asked for a Presbyterian ministry. The Personeous' claim that they have an agreement with the Presbyterians that we will stay out of Pelican because they closed their work in Klawock some years ago. The actual circumstance was that the Personeous' located in Klawock when Ross Cleland was there and realized that they were in competition with us. They said they were willing to go to some other place and Ross appealed the case to me. I suggested they go to some place "like Pelican" where there was no resident ministry and carry on. We were not serving Pelican at the time except an occasional visit from the Princeton-Hall. Pelican then grew to be a larger community with a cold storage plant and we still have stayed away from it until this recent call has come asking us to come into perform a Christian service. We made no agreement with them but simply suggested that they go to some place like Pelican where there was no regular service.

The Rev. William H. Gavin

-2-

October 11, 1956

When George does retire from Hoonah we ought to try to develop this plan with a resident ordained fully trained ministry in Hoonah with visits to Pelican once or twice a month to encourage the Protestant people there who have refused to attend the services of the Personeous'.

Sincerely yours,

JW:dj

cc: The Rev. Brian H. Cleworth

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

APR 24 1957

April 18, 1957

The Rev. George Betts
Presbyterian Church
Hoonah, Alaska

Dear George,

I think that if I had been there I would have done the same thing that you did. Don't worry about what people say - they get all mixed up and don't understand what we mean. God knows that you didn't mean anything wrong about moving the body.

If you had left the body in the church over Palm Sunday, probably a lot of people wouldn't want to come to church. So, as far as I can see, you did right in wanting to use the church for the living to worship in instead of mourning and sadness on Palm Sunday.

You did right in writing to Presbytery as soon as this happened so we would know what the trouble was. If the trouble doesn't die down soon, write me again and I will try to help in some way. You are a good soldier, George - keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

Ronald B. Snelling

cc: Dr. J. Earl Jackman
Rev. Brian Cleworth
Rev. Donald Schwab

*A fee att. ltr for
supplement*

APR 22 1957

Hoonah, Alaska
April 15, 1957

The Rev. Mr. J. Earl Jackman D.D.
Unite Of Work in Alaska
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman:

I think I should tell you what took place here the last week end Friday, evening a lady passed away I know the cause of death was drinking, after getting home from my study a Mr. James Osborne, came to the manse, asking me "George Mrs. Ben Jackson passed away her husband does not want the body in their house because it is too small, what do you say if the body is kept in your church until the key to the ANb hall is found" I told him that it was close to Palm Sunday, however it is alright with me. so the body was brought in and laid before the pulpit, the body was there over Friday night A member of our church came to see me and asked me if the body was to be left there durring our Palm Sunday service after talking it over with the member I want and asked the husband if it was alright to move the body to the A.N.B. Hall Sunday morning at 10 O'clock He did not say anything to me at the time but later the town police came up and others also came who were not members of our church and asked me what I mean't by trying to through the body out well I did not say much I saw that what ever I told them they would not listen. If you want more details I'll let you know, this Lady is a white woman not a member of our Church and she drank herself to death the whole town is mad at me. The Russian Church called for the body so they took the body to the Russian Church Saturday. Now if I did not do the right thing let me know. I told the husband that they could leave the body there but they were mad and took it away.

cc Cleworth, Schwab, Snelling

George P. Butts

April 24, 1957

The Rev. George Betts
Hoonah, Alaska

Dear George:

We are writing to follow up the action of the Presbytery regarding your status and your work at Hoonah. As I remember it, the Presbytery approved your retirement whenever the appropriate committees and the secretary of the department of Alaska would work it out. At the same time the Rev. Arthur Johnson was appointed for service in Hoonah as of August 1, 1957. You probably know that it is the plan for Arthur and Evelyn to be on the Princeton-Hall during the early part of the summer and then to settle in Hoonah when the summer program for the boats has been completed.

We have asked the Rev. Brian Cleworth to check with the social security office in Juneau to determine the amount of your social security benefits. Mr. Cleworth has written that your benefit would be based upon the salary level of 1956, and that you would have no benefit for the six months of 1957 on a higher salary level. This of course would provide for retirement as of July 1, 1957. However, if you were to have a higher level of salary throughout the entire year of 1957, then your social security benefits would be higher. We still believe it is possible to take retirement as of July 1, 1957, and get the benefit of your higher level of salary for the first six months of this year. We are seeking additional interpretation on this from the Federal Old Age Insurance authority here, and will keep you informed. If their interpretation of the law is correct, then we will seek a higher level of salary for you for the entire year of 1957, but if our interpretation is correct, we would seek the higher level of salary for you until July 1, 1957.

We are recommending that you move to Angoon and that you be responsible for the services of the church there. Since the Hood Bay Cannery is not to operate this year, and the population of Angoon is going down, we are not sure that we can justify having a full-time worker there on full salary. You could move to Angoon, accept retirement from social security and the Board of Pensions, and receive as much as 1200 dollars a year salary for giving part-time service there. We are still working on this and will hope to give you a definite report a little later. Meanwhile, we want to assure you that we shall try to do everything possible for your benefit in working out this arrangement.

Best wishes to both of you.

Cordially yours,

JEL:lt
Cc: The Rev. Brian Cleworth

J. Earl Jackson

Dear Dr. Parkman:

George Bell
Horn Lake, Alaska
Apr 12 1908

I did not give you the point in the letter
the people wanted the body in front of the pulpit
while the Palm Sunday services were held
But I did not agree, since the body was
already ~~smelly~~ strong, I asked or told the
parties interested that the body could be
brought back after services, however, they
took the body to the Russian Church, and
we had a fine Palm Sunday service
The parties interested were no church members
of ours however some of our members did
not like it

C. C. Cleworth
Schwab-
Smelling

April 26, 1937

The Rev. George F. Betts
Ketchikan, Alaska

Dear Friend:

Thank you for presenting to me and to the others concerned a statement of this incident in the church during July 1934. My personal reaction would be to assume that you did. There is no reason for the lack of a non-objection, or at least non-objection to be left in front of the subject of our church during the June Sunday service.

The only reaction I would have with you is to let you know that I have been very much interested in the incident and in the fact that it has been brought to the attention of the church. The subject is the governing body of the Presbyterian congregation, and it is a good thing to have this matter brought to the attention of the church. In this way the subject has been brought to the attention of the congregation through their representatives and officers. The subject of this is the responsibility of the church to the people. It should be further discussion of the problem. I would suggest that you consult with your officers and the people. This will help to interest the whole of the people of the congregation and community.

Best regards to both of you.

Sincerely,

J. Earl Johnson, Secretary
Department of Social Service

WJ:11

The Rev. George F. Betts, Ketchikan, Alaska

MAY 7 1957

Hoonah, Alaska
May, 3, 1957

The Rev. J. Earl Jackman D.D.
Dept. of Work in Alaska
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman:

I got both your letters, yes, I think I should have called a Session meeting but I really just asked if we could have the body taken to the A.N.S. Hall 10 O'clock Sunday morning and later told them it was alright with me if it was left there however, there was a misunderstanding all around, but it is all forgotten now and everything is going on as if nothing happened.

I want to thank you for what you are trying to do as for the help I will be getting from the Social Security, I hope the plans work out. A man was out here from their office and visited me, you see I applied for my Social security in February, but as yet I have not heard from the office in the States, however, the man that was out here asked me to withdraw my application since I was still employed so I did, so just as soon as I hear the outcome of your investigation, I will again apply.

In one of the letters from Mrs. Swason, she stated the the Princeton-Hall will be here to conduct a Vacation Bible School Arthur and his wife will be on the boat, so I think that it would be wise to start moving our things as soon as we can, I have been trying to hire a boat to take us and our things to Angoon, but they charge a good price to take us to Angoon, however Dick, on the Princeton-Hall told me that he will call in here in about two weeks and take some of our things, and the rest of the things when we move, I think we will be out of the manse by the end of June so Arthur will have a chance to fix up the place while here during July.

The cannery at Hood Bay will be running this summer and there will be a lot to do, there is always a lot of drinking going on at the cannery. I got a letter from Burdick, he told me that there is a lot of hard feeling about the witch craft that shook Angoon last week so there will be so much to do.

The roof of our church is bad a blow yesterday took some shingles from the roof, I tried to fix it up last summer but it takes a lot of work to patch it up, it looks as though it will have to be reshingled. I am sure you will let me know at an early date as to your findings about my Social security. Regards to you and Mrs. Jackman.

Sincerely yours.

cc. Cleworth
Schwab

George R. Betts

May 7, 1957

Dr. Walter Clark
Board of Pensions
Widener Building
Philadelphia 7, Pa.

Dear Walter:

We have a special case of one of our native ministers in Alaska Presbytery which may need a little clearance in advance to be sure it is within the rules of the Board of Pensions for the benefit of the minister. We want advance clearance on this so there will be no question raised when this man retires.

The Rev. George Betts of Kodiak, Alaska, has come to the age of retirement and we had expected him to retire officially as of July 1, 1957. In the place he was supposed to move to Igroon and continue to serve there on a part-time basis in a church which has never paid more than \$400 a year toward the support of their missionary pastor. This would be supplemented from National Missions funds to the extent of the rate of \$1200 a year for part-time service. As we discussed these arrangements in the meeting of the Presbytery and afterwards, it has been discovered that he would not retire under social security with the benefit of the current rate of salary for the first six months of 1957, so that if he were to lose his salary level of the last two years prior to 1957, the salary was lower and his social security benefits were lower. He are on a higher salary level from 1957 and will have still a higher one for 1958. To order for George to have a more permanent benefit for retirement which he needs, we are now proposing to employ him during the entire year of 1957 at the maximum salary for social security benefits, namely \$6200 a year. However he will have agreed to leave his pastor and will be serving there for six months of the year before retirement. When permanent retirement comes, he will continue to serve there on a part-time basis.

The soundness which we want cleared and approved is the fact that when George officially retires in December of 1957, he will not be moving from that location in order to fulfill the long-held plan of the Board of Pensions that a man must move from the field which he has been serving in order to qualify to receive his pension and partial employment. Because

of weather conditions and transportation, we need to shift our personnel during the summer rather than in the middle of the winter. Therefore we request the approval in advance for George Backs to move this summer from Council in London, retire as of December 31, 1957, and still be permitted to receive the pension in full and be permitted to receive up to \$1200 a year for partial service in our National Pension plan in the area where he was actually living (within the last six months) - at the place where his retirement becomes effective.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

JEJ:lt

cc: The Rev. Brian Cleworth

at
Pinto side

May 16, 1957
(dictated May 13th)

The Rev. George A. Miller
Moonah, Alaska

Dear George:

Thank you for your letter of May 1st about social security and plans for moving. We have been working on this and want you to have as large a benefit as possible. To that end, we feel that you must be on full salary at the rate of \$4200 a year during this entire year, so that you can use the higher level for the higher return. We have filed another document on this basis and would expect that you would get full salary for service in regard when you move. As far as I know, there is only one objection to this, namely, that under the rules of the Board of Pensions, when a man officially retires and then continues part-time, he must have moved from his place of service at the time of retirement in order to qualify for the payment of his pension plus the part-time employment. If this rule holds, you would not receive full salary at Ingon for the latter six months of this year and retire on pension plus part-time salary. We have written to Dr. Clark of the Pension Board on this to get a decision in advance with the hope that your full salary during the latter six months of this year will not interfere with this general provision.

We have informed us that Dick Nelson promises to take some of your furniture over to Ingon by airplane, so that your moving can be done for almost additional expense to you. We would hope this also. We are willing to be responsible financially for your move. We are wondering, however, whether it would not be better for you to move into the manse of the church at Ingon because it is fully furnished and ready to be used. The old one has some furniture the Johnsons have to take with them to Moonah, so how much there would be there belonging to the church after you had moved your furniture. It was my understanding that Arthur would be on the boat until the first of August, but you seem to indicate that this date is July 1st. Apparently we do not have the exact information on this. So far as you are concerned you will be under full salary in either place.

Sorry to hear that the church had a bad fire and lost some stonework. The work done has been good. If it is large, then we ought to consider something that part of it was. If the damage is slight, then we could see it and have this job done at a later time.

Best regards to Ella and yourself.

Sincerely,

Dr. The Rev. George A. Miller
5/16/57

J. Earl Jackson
(dictated by Dr. Jackson and signed in his absence)



BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N.Y.

ALGONQUIN 5-8000

June 3, 1957

The Rev. George Netts
Moonah, Alaska

Dear George:

I have written to Dr. Clark of the Board of Missions regarding some possible arrangement to cover your employment full-time at Angoon for the rest of the year and still be qualified for pension and part-time employment when you actually retire at the end of December, 1957. Dr. Clark states that their rule is fixed on this, and they have turned down other people under it, so that he feels an exception cannot be made. He has suggested a way out of this which would put the responsibility on National Missions, but I am not sure that it is something that can be done.

Meanwhile, I think that Brian Cloworth has come through with the best suggestion yet. His idea is that you move your things to Angoon as of July 1st, that you be assigned to service on the Princeton-Hall for the rest of the year during the time when Dick Nelson will be on his furlough in the States, and then you return to Angoon for part-time service as a retired missionary. This would enable you to receive full salary for the rest of the year, which will increase your social security benefit and make it possible for us to assign you to service part-time in Angoon January 1, 1958.

There are several things involved in this which we must consider. First of these is the question whether Katie can be left at home in Angoon about three-fourths of the time without you. It would mean also that Angoon would not have any workers living on the field, but an arrangement would have to be made with the crew of the Princeton-Hall that you or someone else would go to Angoon for one week (which would cover two Sundays) each month to hold services during the fall period. By this arrangement you will be home at least one week out of each month, could contact services there on an occasional basis, which would not mean that you would be assigned to the church, but could be a temporary arrangement during the fall period.

Meanwhile you know that we have increased your salary to the rate of \$4200 for this year on which you will have to pay income tax, but which will give you the opportunity to claim maximum credit for social security benefits. Again we would remind us all that we would prefer to have you live in the house in Angoon rather than have it stand idle over the winter.

While at General Assembly I looked up your pension record to attempt to do some figuring for you. Your earned pension credit at the end of 1956 was \$495.55. At the rate of \$4200 plus wages credit for 1957, this would be increased by 161.37 for 1957. This gives you \$656.92 earned pension credit at the end of 1957. According to the figures which Brian Cleworth secured for us from the social security office in Juneau, your social security credit for 1956 was on the basis of \$4001.68 and your credit for full 1957 would be \$4230. This would allow \$160.05 a month or \$1920.60 for the year. This makes pension and social security \$2576.52. If you serve part-time for us at Angoon at \$1700 a year, your total would be \$3276.52, or about \$273 a month. It is conceivable that you and Katie could get along on that if your medical bills are not too high.

Please give me your answers on these questions as soon as you can, and let us see what we can work out along this line. We shall want to do our best for you within the restrictions of all of these provisions involved.

Regards to both of you.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman

JJJ:lt

Cc: The Rev. Brian Cleworth
The Rev. Paul Moser



BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N.Y.

ALBUQUERQUE 1947

June 14, 1947

The Rev. George R. Betts
Moonah, Alaska

Dear George:

Thank you for your letter of June 1946 expressing your willingness to be on board the Princeton-Hall this fall. Under the circumstances which you describe, it would seem best for Katie to stay with your daughter in Petersburg. We had hoped that there would be someone living in the house at Igloo and perhaps you can arrange when you take your furniture over to have someone be responsible for the property, and if necessary keep a little heat in it to prevent freezing of water pipes or any other thing.

We will be responsible for your moving expenses from Moonah to Igloo so that you can send us a bill for these later and we will take care of it.

Since you will not be living in Igloo until the first of January or until the Kelsons return from their furlough, we hope arrangements will be made through Brian Claworth and the Princeton-Hall crew to have someone be there for two Sundays each month and the week in between to carry on services and to call upon the people. The local officers are to be organized and directed to take the responsibility in between times when someone comes in to help them. If the Kelsons are back in their place by the middle of December, you might arrange to go on over to Igloo then so that plans can be made for Christmas activity in relation to the Church.

I shall look forward to a visit with you at the August Conference, and we can talk over some more of these things together.

Sincerely,

J. Earl Jackson, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

cc: Mr.
The Rev. Brian Claworth
The Rev. Paul Moser



BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N.Y.

ALGONQUIN 5-5000

June 19, 1957

Dr. Walter Clarke
Board of Pensions
Witherspoon Building
Philadelphia 7, Pa.

Dear Walter:

I wrote you early in May and we talked together at General Assembly about working out a retirement plan for the Rev. George Petts of Moonah, Alaska. We think we have it all cleared for now within the regular rules of the Pension Board and National Missions.

The plan is simply this, we have arranged for Mr. Petts to move his household goods to Angoon at a convenient time during the summer. His wife will remain with their daughter in Petersburg while Mr. Petts will serve on the mission motorship, the Princeton-Hall, until the end of December. At the end of December he will retire officially and then will take up his residence at Angoon where he will serve on a part-time basis as a retired minister. Our regular man on the Princeton-Hall will be on furlough in the fall, so that Mr. Petts can serve there and fill a real need until we come to the time of his official retirement when he will move to Angoon.

Thank you for your counsel and help on this.

Sincerely,

J. Earl Jackman

JES:lt
Cc: The Rev. Brian Cleworth

JUN 25 1957

THE BOARD OF PENSIONS
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America

Witherspoon Building
Philadelphia 7, Pa.

June 24, 1957

Rev. J. Earl Jackman, D. D.
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, New York

Dear Earl:

Thanks for your letter of June 19th giving further information regarding the retirement plan for the Rev. George Betts of Hoonah, Alaska. This sounds as if we can follow it and that there will be no problems arising as a result of his anticipated retirement as of the first of the year.

Please keep us informed if there are any changes in this plan and suggest to Mr. Betts, that on or about the first of the year when this retirement has become effective, that he write us requesting a retirement blank.

It is mighty good to see you at the recent meeting of the General Assembly and my only wish is that in some way we might be thrown together more often so that not only problem cases might be discussed, but that we might have the privilege of a larger and deeper fellowship.

Best of wishes to you.

Sincerely yours,

Walter L. Clark

WLC:rt



BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

150 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 10 NY

ALBANY 515600

June 24, 1957

The Rev. George Betts
Bosch, Alaska

Dear George:

In our plans for the All-Alaska Western Conference at Sitka, August 1st to 10th, we want to use a period of time on Tuesday afternoon for a study of native cultures. Since the Tlingits are the largest tribe, we are specializing on them. We would like to have you take ten to fifteen minutes to talk about the religious beliefs of the Tlingit people. Please give this enough preparation so that you will be able to give us the vital aspects of their beliefs of the past in the time allowed. You should know that we are asking Arthur Johnson to speak upon the history and culture, and Dr. Satchell to speak on working with the Tlingit people. We would like a little time also for general discussion and questions from the group.

We hope it will be possible for you to do this with us.

Best regards to you and Katie.

Cordially,

J. Earl Jackman

Initiated by Dr. Jackman and signed in his absence

J.EJ:lt

CC/ The Rev. Brian Cleworth
Dr. R. R. Armstrong



Rev. and Mrs. George R. Betts retired last July from the Gospel ministry after serving the Presbyterian Churches over thirty five years. George was elected and served in both offices of president and secretary of the Alaska Native Brotherhood local camps and while serving was always on the ball and in doing so kept his camp posted and in front with all activities in the Grand Camp. Although he attended several Grand Conventions he never was a candidate for any Grand Camp office. He was asked several times by his friends to run for an office but has always declined. George and his wife, Katherine, will make their home in Angoon, which is their original home town. Angoon can be proud of such a couple as these and can be sure that Alaska appreciates what this community has contributed to its cause. We are sure that George will continue in the work in the Brotherhood. This is one type of service from which one cannot retire. As our founding fathers, "till death do us part."

JUL 24 1958

Frances Johnson Memorial Presbyterian Church

ANGOON, ALASKA
July 22 1958

Rev. George R. Betts
Minister

The Rev. Mr. J. Earl Jackman D.D.
Dept. of Work in Alaska
156 Fifth Ave.
New York N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman::

I was in hopes in seeing you while you came up but just could not.

*no this covered by
Oct. 1958*

The Princeton-Hall is in Pelican, I will be flying over Thursday, to take her into Juneau, a lot of things happened while I was away from here, the manse got on fire, it so happened that Cyrus Peck landed here just as it strated, Cyrus got busy and got up on the roof and put the fire out Cy, happened to be the only man in town at the time, Cy was out on a two weeks vacation. there was no water in town but I bought four barrells that holds about 125 gallons of water, I had water in the barrells filled in case of fire it came in handy if it was not for Cy, and the water it could have burned the village down.

We hve had over two months of dry weather here everything has been paper dry no water at all one has to pack water in a boat however we have a little rain now but we still do not have water

Cleworth, had me get a new meterial for a chimmney, I am working on it now, I am sure that the new chimmney will make it safe owing to the new celling and the upper floor it makes it rather hard to set up the chimmney as it needs a strong foundation. Burdick, warned me about the old chimmney he told me that it is not safe.

I had to take Mrs. Betts into town she had a small lump in her hand the doctow cut it out.

My son in law lost his boat the St. Nicholas, the man at the wheel toke the wrong channel and hit, the whole bottom was ripped and sank. the crew just made the life boat.

Fishing is very poor as yet but you see fishermen looks for a good run the comming week.

I will need about three bundles of shingles to repair the roof I fixed it up so it will not leak but will repair it when I get the chimmney up and get some shingles, there are no shingles here. Will write more the next time.

Sincerely yours,

George
George R. Betts

August 29, 1958

The Rev. George Betts
Angoon, Alaska

Dear George:

Thank you for your recent letter giving us information about your summer activities and relationships. We want to express our thanks to you for adjusting your program and your time at home to be the pilot for the Princeton-Hall in its work for vacation Bible schools. This action on your part shows your usual generous nature and your devotion to the work of Christ through our church, and your willingness to sacrifice something on your own part in order to fulfill our needs.

We are sorry to hear that Mrs. Betts has had another operation, but we hope that the trouble has been removed completely. Best regards to both of you and blessings upon you as you remain in Angoon together and carry on the work.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ:EW

CC : The Rev. Brian H. Cleworth, Trinity College, San Antonio, Texas
P.S. A recent news note seem to show that some funds were being expended in Angoon for road building and other activities. Does this mean that the village of Angoon will remain and will build up again, or is the population still declining?

Oct 6 1948

Frances Johnson Memorial Presbyterian Church

ANGOON, ALASKA
Oct 3, 1948
[1958]

Rev. George R. Betts
Minister

The Rev. J. Earl Jackman D.D.
Dept. of Work in Alaska
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman:

Thank you for the nice letter that you wrote, Mrs. Betts, and I enjoyed working for the Lord under your leadership.

I did not get to go to the meeting of Presbytery, as Mrs. Betts, is very sick, she is in bed now and it will be just a matter of time before the Lord calls her, she is however cheerful, although she is suffering.

The nurse here is getting in touch with the doctor at Mt. Edgecumbe, so I'll know soon just what we could do.

I spoke to some of the men in our Presbytery, about an "AUTOMATIC" washer I bought from Sears, I paid \$289.95 for it, it has never been used, if you should be interested in one for some manse, I would take \$250 for it, for Katie does not need it now.

Refer to BC

I will keep you in touch as to how Katie, is getting along I have to be near her just about all the time, the women here are so nice to her they take turns in helping her.

Best regards to you and Mrs. Jackman.

Sincerely yours

cc. Cleworth

George R. Betts

Letts fdr.

October 16, 1953

The Rev. George R. Letts
Juneau
Alaska

Dear George:

Thank you for your latest letter giving further information about Katie's condition. We are sorry to hear that she is slipping away from us. She has been a great christian, and has had a wonderful influence for Christ among her own people. Tell her that we are grateful to God that she has been with you in your ministry in our church.

Please keep us informed about developments.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackson, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEL:12

P.S. George, we just saw the motion pictures which Everett Farner took of you and the rest on the Princeton-Hall. They have turned out very well, and we were happy to see you in them.

CC: The Rev. Brian E. Cleworth, Juneau, Alaska

*all
Betts side.*

Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church
In the United States of America

156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY 10, NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF WORK IN ALASKA

THE REV J EARL JACKMAN DD

SECRETARY

156 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 10, N.Y

THE REV BRIAN H CLEWORTH

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

BOX 2539 JUNEAU ALASKA

January 5, 1959

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, New York

Dear Earl:

I went over to Angoon on January 1st with Cy Peck for the funeral of Katie Betts. We held a service on that evening in the ANB hall (where the casket was). The funeral was held Friday at 12:30 in the church so that I could leave on the afternoon plane.

George is holding up well but was completely exhausted. He had been up for many days with only an hour or two of sleep. Even after Katie died he dare not leave her body alone as he was afraid of the clan trying to put devil's club in the coffin.

I encouraged George to go to Petersburg with his daughter Frances when she goes back there next Friday. George said that he had no money and could not go. I then told him that I was sure we could dig up the money for him to go to Petersburg for a week or two as he badly needs to get away and rest up. If you can take care of this from New York funds Earl, that would be fine. If not, I will try to cover the cost from here. (Fare: Angoon to Petersburg, R/T \$70.20) I have authorized the ticket to be charged on my account. *a.k. Russ, travel - pay to Brian H. Cleworth for travel for the Rev George R Betts*

I spoke to George about staying on at Angoon. He said that he had been very well accepted at Angoon because most of these people were Katie's clan. Now that Katie is gone he was not sure how he would make out. "You know, I am nobody- it was all Katie. They were nice to me because of her." George said he would stay on until Presbytery meets anyhow and then we can see after that. He said he would be glad to help out on the Princeton-Hall for the summer but would not want to be on the boat in the winter time.

Sincerely,

Brian
Brian H. Cleworth

Pettis

January 8, 1959

The Rev. George Pettis
Angoon, Alaska

Dear George:

We extend to you our deepest sympathy in the loss of your good wife, Katie. We know that she has been a great companion with you in your ministry over the years, and has shared with you in your witness to Christ and His power in our lives. I have always had a feeling of admiration for both of you in your Christian commitment, and your willingness to stand for what you felt was Christian, even in the face of pressures for other things among your people.

When you are able to do so, we will like to hear from you something about the happenings of the last days of her life and the arrangements for the funeral, and where her body has been buried. We were glad to know that Brian Cleworth could come over and be with you for the services. Also, we would like to hear of your plans of what you will be doing in the near future. We anticipate that you will remain in Angoon, and continue your ministry there.

Looking beyond the human side of our relationships, we are grateful that Katie's suffering has ended, and that she has been released from a physical body which was going down. Just a few days after her departure, I was showing slides for a church group, and showed a very good one of you two which I took in Klukwan. It was a privilege to hear testimony to the wonderful Christian character of both of you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ:EW
CC: Cleworth

January 19, 1959

The Rev. George Betts
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear George:

Mr. Cleworth has given us some information about the happenings in Angoon in connection with the funeral, and his recommendation that you go to Petersburg for a visit with Frances and her family for a rest and recuperation. He has reported to us that he has authorized the cost of the air fare 2/1 of \$79.20. We are supporting his recommendation and are requesting our treasury department to send a check to him to cover this charge account with Alaska Coastal.

Mr. Cleworth also has reported that he had conversation with you about continuing service in Angoon. If you have further recommendation on this, please let us have it. It would be helpful to have your idea before the meeting of the Presbytery, so that we can plan with you and talk about it more definitely there.

We think of you often and ask God's blessings upon you in these difficult days.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEM:EM

CC ; The Rev. Brian H. Cleworth

Angeon, Alaska
August 31, 1959

SEP 3 1959

Rev. J. Earl Jackman D.D.
Dept. of Work In Alaska
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman:

It has been a long time since I wrote, however, I am back at Angeon, after spending some rainier and stormier days on the boat SJS 11, the young people that came up did a good job alaround, Mrs. Swanson sure knows how to handle young people she is doing a good job also.

Mr. Illinsworth, helped me with the bath room, yet there is a lot more to do, I have a lot of plumbing to do there is no material to do it with when I order material it is get the wrong fittings and it takes a long time to get it.

I had had my Salmon Grill, 10' x 12' x 12' and some two by four, it is up at Hood Bay now I will have to get a big boat to bring it down, we saved a lot by getting it through Hood Bay, we saved \$1.25 on each board plus the freight, the oil burner in the stove was burned out and could not be used so I got a new oil burner from the Lyles Hardware, in Juneau, inclosed are the bills, Rev. Cleworth told me that there was a \$300 grant for the material to fix the rooms so I took the chance of getting the material, I am not sure if the durner would be included but took the chance The lumber and burner would come to the amount of \$237.84, you could send the \$226.59 to the Hood Bay office at the address on the bill direct to the office in Seattle, you could send the \$11.25 to Lyle's at Juneau to me and I will send it over to them so that there will be no mixed up.

Just about all the people are back from the canneries most of the fishermen made a little money, however, half of the Angeon, fleet went down to Puget Sound to fish.

I am wondering if I asked you to reorder our Sunday Church supplies for the new year, if not please reorder the same amount as last year as I need it bad.

We are going to build a four room building, some of our men may be working on it.

I do not know just when I will take my vacation, I did not take one last year or the year before as there was so much to do.

The English girls are returning to pick up the Thinglet this fall, that takes a lot of time teaching them. I am

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wondering if they will give our church credit for the work, however, I am glad to teach them. I will try and get them to teach in our Sunday Church school, as we sure need teachers.

We did not get good weather to paint the church for it rained nearly every day, it was a wonder we got the roof on.

Sincerely yours,

George R. Betts

Serge Bato
 Angoon, Alaska
 Oct. 25, 1933

The Rev. Mr. J. Earl Jackman D.D.
 Dept. of Work in Alaska
 156 Fifth Ave.,
 New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman:

I am sorry that I was not able to go to Brooklyn, I did not feel well enough to charter the boat. I have been eating some sweets and fat, I feel a lot better since I have been watching what I eat.

I started putting in the rooms upstairs it is a big job for it is taking just about all my time. I was unable to get one of our boats to go and bring the lumber down so I hired a boat of Robert Duncan, he asked me the sum of \$25 for the work, he used his boat and help of a whole day to get the lumber down, inclosed are two bills for nails and other things that I had to have. Will you please tell me if there is any money left as I did not keep track of my spending I need some flooring and floor cover so if there is any money left I sure can use it.

I sure can use a washing machine also, the gears on the one that is here are stripped and it just can't be used so on the next application blank I will state a washing machine.

Dr. Jackman, Sam Johnson asked me to recommend him for a job on the Princeton Hall, so if a skipper is needed for the boat and if she will be used this winter, we just can't find a better man. I told Stussi, about it when I saw him in Juneau, Sam knows the water around our shores and is very careful.

I had a session meeting last Sunday, I told the members that we just have to fulfil our pledge of the \$400, our treasurer was asked to send some money towards it and promised to try and have the rest in by the end of the year. Mr. Joseph Kaneesh is the chairman of our Trustees, so you can drop him a note and remind him of it.

The A.N.P. takes up a lot of the time of our Natives this time of the year and it is so hard to get our people interested in other things, the convention comes on next month however I told the officers of our church that our church work is just important if not more.

The missionary that the Assembly of God had here left, he got discouraged however, he told us that they will send some one else.

We are getting a good start we have organized a choir. I have been working on organizing one since I came, the people are settling down now and are starting a children's weekly Bible study the first of the month, most of our people are catching fish so we were not having any Wednesday prayer meetings but

we will be starting that also. All but one boat has returned from fishing, the run of fish was not so good down on the Washinton coast.

The work on our school is not going as it should owing to the trucks braking down just about all the time, the contractor leased some broken down trucks from Juneau, so our men that went to work got laid off untill other trucks could be gotten.

Regards to you and Mrs. Jackman

Sincerely yours

George R. Betts
George R. Betts

P.S. If it is not too late please order 30 set of officers
envelopes and send us the bill
G. R. B. *corrected SK*
11/4/59

December 22, 1959

The Rev. George R. Betts
Angoon,
Alaska

Dear George:

I should have written to you a month ago to answer your questions, but your letter got into a pile of mail which was overlooked at the time we moved from 156 Fifth Ave., to 475 Riverside Drive.

I am sorry not to have had a visit with you at the meeting of the Presbytery, but recognize that you had been ill, and were having trouble with your diet. We hope this has been straightened out, and that you are feeling better.

I understand from some of the folks in southeastern Alaska that you spent a great deal more money during the summertime than you received. This was done while you were on the boat for our program of Vacation Bible Schools. If you will send me a statement of your costs on this, we would be glad to send you some additional funds to cover these expenses.

On the matter of the upstairs part of the manse, there was an amount of \$300.00 appropriated, and very little of that has been used. This has been designated for "Completion of the upstairs rooms," which would include partitions, frames, and other similar items. We hope it will be possible to get more done on this, and to have some help from some of your men on it.

We received your suggestion of Sam Johnson as a Skipper of the Princeton-Hall for this winter. When your letter came, we had already made arrangements with Lee Jimmy to do this for us over the winter until we get a decision from the Board whether we are to keep the Princeton-Hall or let it go.

Since your letter has come, we have received another \$100.00 from the church on their pledge. They are still behind by \$250.00. We hope it will be possible for them to do something more on this because we depend on this amount of money to continue our support of the man on the field.

Sorry to hear that real progress is not being held on the construction of the new school building. The construction of the new building would seem to indicate that the people of the village ought to remain at Angoon, and there is a possibility of some increase in population. How are things going generally in the village?

You will be interested that I had a visit with Lynn Illingworth at Western Seminary in November. He has a great affection for you, George, and appreciates your

fine spirit and great devotion to the cause of Christ. We did not have to argue with him about that because we feel the same way toward you.

Kindest regards and best wishes to you.

Cordially,

JES/csb
cc: Mr. Pritchard

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

APR 17 1961

Angoon, Alaska
April 12, 1961

The Rev. Mr. J. Earl Jackman D.D.
475 Riverside Drive
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr Jackson:

It has been a long time since I wrote you somehow I do not write very much. You do not know how much some of us missed you during the meeting of Presbytery.

We had a good meeting of Presbytery, at Metlakatla, but as I said we missed you however, I know that your prayers for us was a help.

I have not been feeling well all winter I had to go to Juneau once a month for a check up. I am feeling much better now.

The work here was a heavy load as the people do not get along with one another and that makes it hard for a worker.

I was elected commissioner to the General Assembly, I do not know if I will be able to go, when you was up in the past years you use to help us out with the expenses of the trip and then we would refund it. I am wondering if such a thing could be worked out. Then I want to visit my supporting Churches in Philadelphia I am sure you could work that out for me. My plan is to fly down, leaving Alaska, May 14th then come back on the train, I think it could be worked out.

I am sure looking forward to seeing you at the Assembly, This will be my last trip to the Assembly. I will tell you more news about the field when I get down.

Sincerely yours,

George R. Betts
George R. Betts

Alaska
Betts
File

April 19, 1961

The Rev. George R. Betts
Angoon
Alaska

Dear George:

It was good to hear from you and to learn something about you. One of the things which I miss in this change of relationships is the communication with you folks locally on the field. Remember I am still interested in you and what you are doing so don't hesitate to let me know.

I missed being at the Presbytery meeting but knew that I do not belong there now under the change of administration. It was kind of you to say that I was missed at the meeting also.

I shall be at the meeting of the General Assembly and will be staying at Hotel Statler which will be the headquarters hotel for the General Assembly and National Missions. It will be a real pleasure to have a visit with you there, as you have requested.

Since I am no longer related to the administration of the work in Alaska it is not possible for me to do anything about an advance of funds for you to get to the Assembly which would returned when you get your check from the Assembly. I would suggest that you either ask Mr. Fritchard to see what he could do about this or write to Mr. Schwab to inquire if you could borrow from the Presbytery until your return.

It is not within my responsibility to arrange for you to visit your supporting Churches, but I will pass this word along to the proper office here and ask them to communicate with you and your supporting Churches to see if this arrangement can be made.

We are glad to know that you are feeling better and hope that your good health will continue so that you can come to the meeting of the General Assembly. On the Sunday of the Assembly, the National Missions supper will be held at one of the churches, and you will be getting an invitation to attend that supper. This reminds me that I have received your twenty-five year pin and certificate for this number of years of service in the Presbyterian Church. I had asked the Personnel office to have this to me in time to send it on to meeting of the Presbytery for it to be presented to you there, but it just now has reached me. Since the next gathering in the name of National Missions will be at the General Assembly, would you want this presented to you at the National Missions supper at the Assembly? If you prefer, we can hold it and have it presented to you at some time in Alaska. You let know which you prefer, and we will try to make that arrangement.

Best regards to you and blessings upon you as you continue to bear your witness for Christ among your people.

Cordially,

J. Earl Jackson

JEB:bh